VII. Provided always, That they which keep their Possessions with Force in any Lands and Tenements, whereof they or their Ancestors, or they whose Estate they have in such Lands and Tenements, have continued their Possessions in the same by three years or more, be not endamaged by force of this Statute.

Purveu toutz foitz qe ceux qi gardent par force lour possessions en ascuns terres ou tenementz dount ils ou lour auncestres ou ceux queux estat ils ount en tiels terres & tenementz ount contenuz lour possessions en ycelles par trois ans ou pluis ne soient my endamagez par force de celle estatut.

I. The Statute of 15 R. 2, c. 2, touching forcible Entries rehearsed and confirmed. 4 Co. 48. Hob. 94. II. The Defects of the Statute of 15 R. 2, c. 2. Palmer, 277. The Office and Duty of Justices of Peace when any forcible Entry is made into Lands, or peaceable Entry, and after detaining with force. Carthew, 496. III. Leonard, 327. The Remedy where any person entering by force doth aliene the same Land to have Maintenance. 1 R. 2, c, 9. Dyer, 122, 187. 9 Co. 118. 11 Co. 65. 7 Ed. 4, f. 18. 4 H. 7, f. 18. Cro. Eliz. 184, 189, 306, 458, 461, 582, 654, 738, 915. Cro. Jac. 17, 19, 31, 41, 148, 151, 176, 214. Cro. Car. 201. IV. The Justice's Precept to the Sheriff to return a Jury to inquire of forcible Entries. Juror to have 40 s. per Ann. The Sheriff's Penalty for omitting his Duty. V. What Action may be had against him who doth put out, or keep out of Possession with Force. Savil, 68. 1 H. 7, f. 19. 6 H. *7, f. 12. 10 H. 7, f. 9. 15 H. 7, f. 17. Dyer, f. 142. Fitz. Ent. 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 27, 33, 39, 45. 10 H. 7, f. 12, 10 Ed. 4, f. 10. Dyer, 214. Fitz. Dam. 23, 25, 10 Co. 116, 11 Co. 30. Cro. El. 93, 96, 106, 697. 22 H. 6, f. 18. Kel. f. 187. 14 H. 7, f. 28. Dyer, f. 141. Bro. Force, 22. 1 Bulstr. 218. 2 Leon. 52. Co. pl. f. 315. VII. Inforced by 31 El. c. 11. They may keep their Land by Force, who have had three Years Possession. 1 Salk. 356. Regist. 289. 1 Inst. 257. 5 R. 2, Stat. 1, c. 7. 4 H. 4, c. 8.

The whole of this Statute is in force and is included here, except the latter part of the 6th section, which gives the Chief Officers of Cities, &c., authority to repress forces, &c. The law considering that every entry upon lands without the owner's leave, and more particularly if against his orders, is a trespass, and that much inconvenience may happen to him before he has an opportunity to forbid the entry, treats every entry upon another's lands, unless by his leave, or in some special instances, as an injury for which an action will lie to recover such damages as a jury may give. It will be observed that this Statute also gives an action to recover treble damages; but it applies only where there is such a degree of force as is calculated to excite fear, see R. v. Smyth, 5 C. & P. 201. See the note to 5 R. 2, Stat. 1, c. 8.